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In re the Application of: **TANAKA, Hisakazu et al.**

Group Art Unit: **Unassigned**

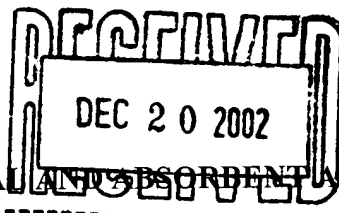
Serial No.: 10/088,107

Examiner: **Unassigned**

Filed: **March 22, 2002**

\*P9986-0726-020307

For. **WATER ABSORBENT MATERIAL AND ABSORBENT ARTICLE USING SAME**



**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT AND**  
**STATEMENT PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(c)**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

December 18, 2002

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the document listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of each of these documents is attached along with a European Search Report and date stamped Communication transmitting the European Search Report showing that each item was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office and that the communication was not received by any person defined in §1.56 (c) more than 30 days before filing this paper.

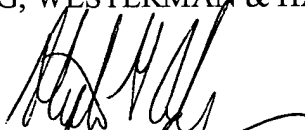
No fee or certification is required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement, since it is being submitted prior to the issuance of a first official action on the merits or expiration of the three month period following the filing date or the entry of the national stage of the above-captioned application.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 01-2340 for any fee which is deemed by the Patent and Trademark Office to be required to effect consideration of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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Atty. Docket No. **020307**  
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**23850**

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosures: PTO-1449; European Search Report;  
Date Stamped Communication transmittal  
and reference (1)



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<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION PTO-1449</b>	Atty. Docket No. 020307	Serial No. 10/088,107
	Applicant(s): TANAKA, Hisakazu et al.	
	Filing Date: March 22, 2002	Group Art Unit: Unassigned

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial		Document No.	Name	Date	Class	Subclass	Filing Date (If appropriate)
_____	AA	5,756,447	Hall	5/26/98			
_____	AB						
_____	AC						
_____	AD						
_____	AE						

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

		Document No.	Date	Country	Translation (Yes or No)
_____	AF				
_____	AG				
_____	AH				
_____	AI				
_____	AJ				

**OTHER DOCUMENTS**

_____	AK	
_____	AL	

Examiner	Date Considered
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